

5 a plurality of personal computers, one for each of the
users, each of said plurality of personal computers
including computer file review means, at least one of said
personal computers being designated host computer for given
file editing operations and having multi-tasking processing
10 means for coordinating the execution of said file editing
operations comprising edits[, which comprise] of less than
[an] the entirety of a given computer file[,] inputted by at
least the user of one of said personal computers, and for
coordinating the transfer of data corresponding with and
15 limited to said file editing operations from said host
computer to the others [remaining ones] of said plurality of
personal computers whereby said file editing operations and
said corresponding limited data transfer are performed in a
predetermined manner by said host computer; and

20 interconnecting means for electrically interconnecting
said host computer with the others [said remaining ones] of
said plurality of personal computers to permit transmission
of electrical signals corresponding with said file editing
operations therebetween;

25 wherein, subject to practical system limitations, said
computer file review means, multi-tasking processing means
and interconnecting means operate so that said file editing
operations and said corresponding limited data transfer
occur on a substantially real-time basis relative to said
30 edit inputs to permit said plurality of users at said

D2

different remote locations to review with their respective
review means said edits made [a] to said given computer file
substantially contemporaneously with the corresponding input
of said edits and execution of said file editing operations.

Sub E27 9. (thrice amended) A system for contemporaneously
editing a given computer file by any of a plurality of
users, comprising:

a plurality of personal computers, one for each of the
5 users, each of said personal computers including means for
inputting edits to said given computer file [editing
operations] and means for display[ing] said given computer
file [data], at least one of said personal computers being
designated host computer and having multi-tasking processing
means for coordinating the execution of file editing
operations comprising edits of less than the entirety of
said given computer file from the inputting means of any of
said personal computers and the transfer of data
corresponding with and limited to said file editing
15 operations from said at least one of said personal computers
to the [remaining ones] others of said plurality of personal
computers[, one of said at least one of said personal
computers being designated host computer]; and

interconnecting means comprising a non-dedicated
20 digital communications system for transferring said data
digitally between said host computer and said others
[remaining ones] of said plurality of personal computers;

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P2

wherein, subject to practical system limitations, said means inputting means, display means, multi-tasking processing means and interconnecting means operate so that said file editing operations and said corresponding limited data transfer occur on a substantially real-time basis relative to said edit inputs to permit said plurality of users at their respective remote locations to review with their respective display means said given computer file reflecting said edits made thereto [a file] substantially contemporaneously with the corresponding input of said edits and file editing operations.

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Jnb E3 18. (twice amended) A method for contemporaneously editing a given computer file from any of a plurality of personal computers situated at different remote locations, wherein at least one of said personal computers has multi-tasking capabilities and one of said at least one of said personal computers is designated as host computer, comprising the steps of:

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P3

electrically interconnecting the host computer with the others [remaining ones] of said plurality of personal computers over a communications network;

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inputting editing instructions which constitute edits to less than the entire given computer file into one of said personal computers;

receiving at the host computer, the editing 15 instructions which have been input;

D3

editing the file in accordance with the instructions;
and

transferring data corresponding with the file editing
instructions from the host computer to the remaining ones of
20 said plurality of personal computers over the communications
network;

wherein subject to practical system limitations, said
editing step and said transferring step occur on a
substantially real-time basis relative to said edit input so
25 as to permit said data to be reviewed at each personal
computer in said different remote locations substantially
contemporaneously with the corresponding input of edits and
execution of file editing operations.

Sub E4> 23. (twice amended) An interactive editing system for
a plurality of users at different remote locations for
permitting any of the users to orally provide file editing
instructions comprising edits to less than an entire given
5 computer file, [and pertaining to a file to be edited,] and
for permitting substantially contemporaneous viewing of the
editing, relative to the edit inputs, by all of the users,
comprising:

voice communication means, in one-to-one correspondence
10 with the users, for transmitting audio signals
representative of any user's voice and said orally provided
file editing instructions to each of the others of said
plurality of users;

a personal computer, having multi-tasking processing
15 means and a display, for use by one of the users to input
and execute the editing instructions orally provided by the
others [remaining ones] of said plurality of users;

a plurality of remote terminals, one for use by each of
the remaining ones of said plurality of users and each
20 having a display; and

interconnecting means for electrically interconnecting
said personal computer with each of said remote terminals
and for transferring data corresponding with the file
editing instructions, comprising edits to less than an
25 entire given computer file, between said personal computer
and said remote terminals;

wherein, subject to practical system limitations, said
file editing instruction execution and said corresponding
data transfer occur on a substantially real-time basis
30 relative to said edit inputs to permit said plurality of
users at said different remote locations to view edits made
to a given computer file substantially contemporaneously
with said edit inputs and the execution of said file editing
instructions.

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated March 15, 1993, the Examiner
rejected all pending claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112 and under 35
U.S.C. § 103 based on U.S. Patent No. 4,464,374 to Swank. The